

Message Text

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53

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

DRC-01 /096 W

----- 051194

R 091040Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5775

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 0031

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, DM, TO

SUBJECT: DAHOMEAN-TOGOLESE RELATIONS FURTHER ENVENOMED

REF: LOME 0052

1. DAHO-EXPRESS JANUARY 8 CARRIED ACCOUNT OF "UNAUTHORIZED" LANDING EYADEMA'S "COMMAND HELICOPTER" ON JANUARY 1 AT DJOUGOU. HELICOPTER ALLEGEDLY LANDED IN MIDDLE OF DJOUGOU MARKET WHERE "POPULATION" REFUSED ALLOW IT TAKE OFF WHEN PILOT COULD NOT PR DUCE AUTHORIZATION FOR OVERFLIGHT OR LANDING. AUTHORITIES WERE THEN ALERTED AND HELICOPTER OCCUPANTS ARRESTED.

2. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS JANUARY 7 DECIDED RELEASE PILOT AND HELICOPTER BUT AR HOLDING DAHOMEAN EX-MINISTER, PAUL DARBOUX, WHILE INVESTIGATION OF AFFAIR CONTINUES. MRGD "TOOK OCCASION" TO AGAIN CALL FOR VIGILANCE TO COUNTER ALL "ATTEMPTS AT SABOTAGE, SUBVERSION, OR ATTEMPTS JEOPARDIZE POLICIES FOLLOWED BY GOVERNMENT SINCE OCTOBER 26, 1972."

3. WORDING OF COMMUNIQUE STRONGLY SUGGESTS MRGD BELIEVES PURPOSE FLIGHT WAS SUBVERSIVE. HELICOPTER AND PILOT WERE RELEASED BECAUSE THEY BELONGED TO NEIGHBORING COUNTRY.

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HOWEVER, INVESTIGATION CONTINUING AND DARBOUX, WHO HAS BEEN

CLOSE POLITICAL*ASSOCIATE OF EX-PRESIDENT MAGA FOR MANY YEARS,
LIKELY BE HELD FOR SOME TIME. INCIDENT FURTHER ENVENOMS
ALREADY BAD RELATIONS BETWEEN TOGO AND DAHOMEY, AND ADDS TO
LOCAL CREDENCE IN EYADEMA'S INVOLVEMENT WITH DAHOMEAN
DISSIDENTS IN PLOTTING OVERTHROW OF PRESENT REGIME.
MCNAMARA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HELICOPTERS, AIRSPACE VIOLATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974COTONO00031
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: COTONU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740154/aaaabyyn.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: LOME 0052
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <30-Sep-2002 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DAHOMEAN-TOGOLESE RELATIONS FURTHER ENVENOMED
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, DM, TO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005